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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/720,143
Filing Date	11/25/03
First Named Inventor	Oliver et al.
Art Unit	unknown
Examiner Name	unknown
Attorney Docket Number	5178

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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	Remarks	
	Preliminary amendment	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	John W. Ryan, Reg. No. 33,771
Signature	<i>John W. Ryan</i>
Date	Feb. 24 2004

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Dana Andrew Oliver et al.

Serial No.: 10/720,143 Art Unit: unknown

Filed: November 25, 2003 Examiner: unknown

For: SURGICAL ARM ASSEMBLY
INCLUDING QUICK CONNECT
MECHANISM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The present Preliminary Amendment and Response is filed as part of Continuation Application 10/720,143, filed November 25, 2003. The priority of the Continuation Application is based on its copendency with parent application 10/040,679, filed November 8, 2001. All of the matters raised by the Examiner in the Final Office Action in parent application 10/040,679 are addressed herein and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested. Please amend the application as follows.